



TIMELINE FOR CHILD CARE SUBSIDY & MARYLAND EXCELS PARTICIPATION

Maryland EXCELS – “**Ex**cellence **C**ounts in **E**arly **L**earning and **S**chool-Age Care” is Maryland’s Quality Rating and Improvement System for Child Care Centers, School-Age Child Care programs, Family Child Care Homes, and Public Pre-Kindergartens. **Maryland EXCELS** awards ratings to child care and public pre-kindergarten programs that meet increasingly higher standards in key areas of quality. Financial incentives, technical assistance and supports are available to participating programs.

The following timeline and deadlines apply to all programs currently receiving **Child Care Subsidy** reimbursement. Failure to take the actions described below by the specified deadlines will result in the program no longer receiving Child Care Subsidy reimbursement.

BY THIS DATE	ACTION REQUIRED
July 1, 2013 – July 1, 2014	Outreach to providers, programs, families, and community with information about Maryland EXCELS and timeline for participation.
July 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014	Regional in-person meetings available to assist programs with submitting their application to Maryland EXCELS . Outreach continues to all groups.
DEADLINE #1 January 1, 2015	Programs must submit an application to Maryland EXCELS by this date to continue to receive Child Care Subsidy reimbursements. Programs that do not submit an application by this date will no longer be eligible to receive Child Care Subsidy reimbursements.
DEADLINE #2 12 Months to Publish a Rating	When the program is accepted in Maryland EXCELS , the program has twelve (12) months to submit documentation to achieve and make public its initial check level rating.

Programs and providers may register and find additional information at **MarylandEXCELS.org**.

For more information about Child Care Subsidy payments only, contact the Division of Early Childhood Development Child Care Subsidy Hotline at **1.866.243.8796**.

NOTE: Informal Child Care Providers are not eligible to participate in **Maryland EXCELS** and their reimbursements are not affected. Informal Child Care Providers interested in obtaining information on becoming a registered Family Child Care Provider may contact their Regional Licensing Office at tinyurl.com/mdcclicensing, or contact the Division of Early Childhood Development Help Desk at **1.877.605.1539**.